

STATINTL

STATINTL

\$5-Million Trujillo Payoffs in U. S. Alleged by Aide

By PETER KIHSS

A former Dominican chief of intelligence contends that "at least \$5,000,000" was showered on "some U. S. Congressmen and State Department officials" by the late Generalissimo Rafael Leonidas Trujillo Molina in the last five years of the dictator's life.

Arturo R. Espallat, who was Consul General here in 1956 and 1957, asserts that Dominican documents showing payoffs and other incriminating files, "have long since been removed to Washington by the State Department."

He also says the files have since "apparently disappeared from sight." He named no names as the recipients of Trujillo's funds.

In Washington, State Department officials denied Mr. Espallat's assertions. They said they had not acquired such Dominican records. They added that they would not be surprised by what they called "absurdities" from Mr. Espallat, whom they called one of the Trujillo regime's most unsavory characters.

They disclaimed interest in talking to Mr. Espallat, who was once the target of United States notes in the disappearance of Jesus de Galindez.

Records Examined

Records of the Trujillo regime have been examined in Santo Domingo at various times by a reporter for The New York Times. Thus far no documents showing such payoffs have turned up.

Dominican security officials said agents of the old Military Intelligence Service destroyed some files between May 30, 1961, the date of the dictator's assassination, and Jan. 1, 1962, when an interim Council of State took over.

Other files are believed to have been sent out of the country by Maj. Gen. Pedro Rodriguez

Echavarría, briefly strong man as Secretary of the Armed Forces. He was himself ousted in January, 1962.

For the last two years, Mr. Espallat has been a wandering exile in the Caribbean and Canada. He contends he is ready to tell what he knows about the alleged payoffs but says he is being shunted from one country to another as a result of United States pressure.

Book Published

The Henry Regnery Company of Chicago published in November a 100-page book "Trujillo: The Last Caesar," by Mr. Espallat. This describes the asserted payoff activities but does not directly name any recipients.

In Ottawa, Jean-Charles Sirous, Mr. Espallat's lawyer, said that Mr. Espallat, at a news conference in Ottawa on Sept. 19, 1962, named a leading United States Representative and four Senators as alleged recipients of Trujillo money. Mr. Espallat said then that there was in the Dominican Republic a complete "list of the American officials being paid off," with amounts of the payoffs.

In his book, Mr. Espallat asserted that Allen W. Dulles, then director of the Central Intelligence Agency, in 1958 induced Morris L. Ernst, a New York lawyer, to refrain from exposing evidence about Mr. Galindez, a Columbia University professor and Basque representative in exile, who disappeared here in March, 1956.

Mr. Espallat said this evidence showed that Mr. Galindez had received C.I.A. money for use in an effort to overthrow the Franco regime in Spain.

Mr. Ernst investigated the Galindez case for the Trujillo Government. On June 1, 1958, he reported that he had cleared the Trujillo regime of any role in the scholar's disappearance.

He declined to comment this week on Mr. Espallat's charges about the C.I.A.

However, Sydney S. Baron, a New York public relations man, who set up the Ernst investigation, commented:

"Mr. Ernst and I consulted with the White House and the State, Justice and other departments before we undertook this assignment, and we cooperated with these and other agencies all during the investigation and for a long time thereafter."

He said Mr. Ernst and his staff worked very closely with the C.I.A. and other agencies.

Mr. Ernst had written Mr. Baron a letter about an admission by the C.I.A. of a link with Mr. Galindez. Mr. Baron said "It may be that there was such a memorandum, but I have no immediate recollection of it."

Mr. Espallat charged that the C.I.A. shipped disassembled weapons to the Dominican Republic starting late in 1960 for the plotters who assassinated Generalissimo Trujillo the following May.

The State Department previously denied charges by Mr. Espallat of United States help in the assassination. Both Mr. Dulles and the C.I.A. have declined to comment on Mr. Espallat's current statements.

Now 42 years old, Mr. Espallat is a graduate of the United States Military Academy at West Point. He was Dominican Minister of State Security from July to November 1957, one of his country's most feared men.

After Generalissimo Trujillo's death, he went to Nassau, to Curacao and then back and forth in French and Dutch portions of St. Martin island in the West Indies until he made his way to Canada on Nov. 4, 1961.

Ordered Deported

A deportation order against him in Canada was upheld by the Supreme Court in Ottawa in a 4-to-1 decision last Oct. 1.

In Washington, State Department officials said Mr. Espallat had recently bid for a United States visa in return for information he said would be of interest to this Government.

The visa was denied, they said but was interviewed by two embassy officials Oct. 7 in Ottawa.

After the Canadian court upheld the deportation order, Mr. Espallat decided to go home. But when he landed in Santo Domingo on Oct. 9, he was stopped and put aboard a plane for Martinique.

In Ottawa, Mr. Sirois said: "Various governments had forced Mr. Espallat last month first to leave Martinique, then British Guiana and then Trinidad. He finally bought a plane ticket to Paris by way of Toronto."

When he got off in Toronto Nov. 21, he was rearrested. His pleas to stay in Canada where his wife and three children live, have since been rejected. He is now in an immigration detention house in Quebec.

In his book, Mr. Espallat asserted "hundreds" of Americans spent \$5 million to \$10 million

Trujillo on "bribes and public relations."

One "price list" the dictator had, Mr. Espallat said, reported an ordinary Representative "would cost about \$5,000 or less," a few House chairmen "about three times that much," Senators "higher" and key Senate chairmen "\$50,000 to \$75,000."

Six hushes were employed, Mr. Espallat wrote. Again without naming names, he said the Dominicans provided a blonde for "a State Department official" visiting their capital, shipped out a Palace girl to the Washington embassy to be "readily available" for one prominent Southern Senator, and sent another to Washington "to become the permanent mistress of a New York Congressman."

In 1957, he said, Generalissimo Trujillo through a middleman "turned over \$75,000 to a powerful Atlantic seaboard Senator," but received in return only a single speech denouncing Communists in the Caribbean. "Altogether, payoffs to that one Senator totaled about \$225,000," Mr. Espallat wrote.

On the Galindez case, Mr. Espallat wrote that Mr. Dulles, as C.I.A. director, had called him to Washington and the Supreme Court in Ottawa told the lawyer that exposure in a 4-to-1 decision last Oct. 1 of Mr. Galindez's financial activities against Franco Spain would "imperil the lives of 200 to 400 people." This, Mr. Espallat said, led Mr. Ernst to issue a "watered-down, truncated version of his findings."

Later, Mr. Espallat said, Mr. Ernst wrote a letter to Mr. Baron dated Aug. 12, 1958,

seeking to reopen the report. Mr. Espallat said this referred to the C.I.A.'s recovering a final \$7,210 check it had sent to Mr. Galindez in February, 1958.

Mr. Ernst's letter, Mr. Espallat said, went on:

"Whether Galindez was put underground or killed by the C.I.A., I do not know."